

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (SYNOPSIS)

The Annual General Meeting of FIAN West Bengal (2007-2008) was held on 5th September 2008 in the FIAN West Bengal office at Jodhpur Park, Kolkata. The Executive Committee (EC) members and other members of FIAN West Bengal participated in the AGM. The participants discussed about the activities of last year

Among the key organizational progress were the success of Nandigram movement, the follow up of the Singur case in Supreme Court. FIAN West Bengal has taken initiative in conducting research on the recent development of SEZ and its impact on food security and livelihood security of the people. FIAN West Bengal is planning to organise a Fact Finding Mission on some of the selected SEZ areas of West Bengal. International pressure has been raised by highlighting the Singur and Nandigram issues

FIAN West Bengal participated in various national and international seminars last year which focused on several human rights issues. Implementation of the Right to Information Act in West Bengal was also an important area of work for the section and Conducting different human rights trainings and awareness programmes and networking were also part of last year's activities.

A parallel report on the status of right to food in India has already been submitted to the CESCR. Dr. Ujjaini Halim , coordinator of FIAN West Bengal made a brief presentation in Geneva in front of the Committee of Economic Social and Cultural Rights on behalf of FIAN India . The report has been highly appreciated at all levels.

In New Delhi a National Consultation was held based on the concluding observations of CESCR and to develop national level strategies for follow-up follow

Dr. Ujjaini Halim mentioned that FIAN west Bengal has contributed meaningfully to the Organisational Development process initiated by FIAN International. She said that FIAN West Bengal should also conduct a workshop on the O/D process. The main areas of discussion will be

- Communication
- Membership
- Expansion strategy

The feedback of this workshop will be given to FIAN International.

For the coming years the SEZ development, land issues and bio fuel and its impact on food security will be the main focus areas. FIAN West Bengal will continue its policy and advocacy works and will also develop case studies based on the above issues. Networking which has been always a strong point for FIAN West Bengal will continue to be the same Organizing human rights training, networking, publications, organizational management, and mobilizing funds were also a part of the future activities. It was suggested by the participants that the organizational capacity must be strengthened by increasing the number of members, consolidating existing groups and conducting more activities at group level